GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
HOME AFFAIRS
LOK SABHA

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:3838
ANSWERED ON:09.08.2016
Misuse of Dowry Law
Pandula Dr. Ravindra Babu

Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government has received complaints regarding false dowry cases and misuse of dowry law by the bride/wives;

(b) if so, the details thereof indicating the number of such cases reported separately, guilty arrested, convicted, conviction rate achieved and steps taken to improve the conviction rate along with the action taken against the guilty separately, during each of the last three years and the current year;

(c) whether the Government has any proposal to amend the Dowry Prohibition Act, 1961 to protect husbands from mental cruelty by their wives and if so, the details thereof; and

(d) the steps taken by the Government to check misuse of the said law along with the advisories issued by the Union Government to the States and police departments in this regard?

Answer

MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS
(SHRI HANSRAJ GANGARAM AHIR)

(a) & (b): National Crime Records Bureau (NCRB) doesn't maintain data centrally on complaints regarding false dowry cases and
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misuse of dowry law by the bride/wives separately. NCRB has started collecting data on cases in which final report ended as false under the Dowry Prohibition Act, 1961 separately since 2014. A total of 447 cases were reported in which final report ended as false under the Dowry Prohibition Act, 1961 during 2014. State/UT wise cases in which final report ended as false and cases in which final report submitted as mistake of fact or of law under the Dowry Prohibition Act, 1961 during 2012-2014 is enclosed at Annexure-I.
(c)& (d): As per the information available, there is no proposal to amend the Dowry Prohibition Act, 1961
Ministry of Home Affairs has issued advisories dated 11th July 2014, 16th January 2012 and 20th October 2009 to combat misuse of section 498A of IPC.
Advisory dated 12th May, 2015 on Comprehensive approach towards crimes against women has been issued which is available at http://mha.nic.in/sites/upload_files/mha/files/AdvisoryCompAppCrimeAgainstWomen_130515.pdf

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Advisory dated 4th September, 2009 on Measures need to curb crime
against women which is available at
http://mha.nic.in/sites/upload_files/mha/files/pdf/AdCrime-Agnst-Women170909.pdf
As per the seventh schedule to the Constitution of India `Police` and `Public Order` are State subjects and, as such, the primary responsibility of prevention, detection, registration, investigation and prosecution of crime, lies with the State Governments/ Union Territory Administrations.

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